God's Requirement

of the Past

Eccl. 3:15 God requireth that which is past.

INTRO. Last Sunday of yr a fitting time for serious thot. Why I left tree standing. It now represents the past. We do not stop to think often enough these days. Illustrated by the esperience of the Japanese nobleman touring this country. In a western city riding on a street car

"Tell me, please, why we left the comfortable car and got on thiscrowded car?"

"Oh, you see, we save two minutes on this trip."

"Ah, the nobleman ventured,"And what will we do with thw two minutes."

I. The Past is real.

Trips during week-mts, ocean, cities and towns and sunshine and bright stars- its all past to us now, but its all there yet.

II. The Past is unchangeable

Every thot, every word, every deed is recorded. We cannot alter or erase from the Past

"What I have written I have written"

III. The Past is ours.

The old yr about gone. Where is it? In our hearts and lives. As food assimilated becomes a part of our bodies, so the Past feeds our minds and personalities.

Over Carquinez Bridge
Half way over-past
Stop in middle- present
Rest of wayto go- the future
All one bridge.

Our knowledge and silll come out of the past. People say that experience is a dear teacher, in the sense of being costly. In a truer sense experience is dear in that it is so precious. "Tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope, and hope maketh not ashamed." The Past is our mother

IV. The Past is eternal.

"That which hath been is now, and that which is to be hath already been."

No straight lines. Earth round. We travel in circle

We are immortal here and now. Ours is an eternal world. We individuals are an expression of the All-Life of God. Up to us to live the God-life

Conclusion.

"God requireth that which is past" implies certain things.

It implies certain blessings received.

It implies opportunites of usefulness

It implies increased diligence

New Years resolutions are in order

We should aim to make 1930 the best yr yet.

Danish sculptor, Thorwaldsen once asked,

"Which is your greatest sculpture?"

"The next one" was his prompt reply.